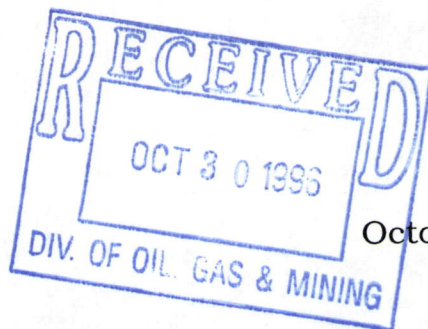


JOHN E. WELSH Ph.D. NATURAL RESOURCES GEOLOGIST

M/015/041



October 28, 1996

Mr. Neil Simmons BLM
125 E. 600 W.
Price, Utah 84501

Mr. Larry Gore BLM
345 E. Riverside Drive, Suite 102
St. George, Utah 84770

Mr. D. Wayne Hedberg
Mr. Tony Gallegos
Utah Natural Resources DOGM
1594 W. North Temple
Salt Lake City, Ut. 84114

Dear Sirs:

AWOL from U. S. A. November 16, 1996 - February 20, 1997

I can think of no pending actions or activities which will require my presence of decisions. If you have any immediate questions please contact me at 801-278-6657.

On October 25, 1996, desert plants from the Lone Peak Nursery were transplanted onto the reclaimed area in NE, SW, sec. 29, T. 22 S., R. 9 E., San Rafael Resource Area, Utah. This is the first time and opportunity that the gypsiferous top soil has had penetrating moisture since October 1995. Reseeding was done in October 1995, immediately after reclamation. A few *Kochia* plants resulted from the 1995 reseeding, but no other species germinated from the seeds. *Halogeton* grew spontaneously. I will be interested in plant occurrences in the reclaimed area after the 96-97 winter months.

Diamond K Gypsum will be active on the San Rafael claims throughout the winter months. Don't hesitate to contact Mr. Phillip Palmer.

Regard,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'John E. Welsh'.

John E. Welsh, Prospector